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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9559  
INFO RUEHVJ/AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO IMMEDIATE 0266  
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE 0502  
RUEAWJA/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1209  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE  
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE 0619  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0253  
RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 001694

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DOJ FOR ALEXANDRE  
STATE FOR S/WCI

E.O. 12958: DECL: CLOSURE OF ICTY  
TAGS: [ICTY](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [KCRM](#) [SR](#)  
SUBJECT: WAR CRIMES PROSECUTOR FED UP, THREATENS TO QUIT

Classified By: DCM Roderick Moore, reasons 1.4 (b,d)

11. (c) War Crimes prosecutor Vladimir Vukcevic stunned local journalists and emboffs when he announced on October 17 that he was tendering his resignation as operational coordinator for the GoS's Action Plan for ICTY cooperation. Vukcevic cited to us his deep frustration over not having the authorities and latitudes necessary to coordinate and compel cooperation and more robust investigative activity from Serbian intelligence and security services. Vukcevic told RLA during the conference that he was tired of being little more than an "errand boy" between the government and ICTY chief prosecutor Carla del Ponte, and intended to quit his post. His pronouncement was almost immediately posted on local news websites, including B92.

12. (c) Vukcevic's co-chair, Rasim Ljajic, told us in Belgrade that Kostunica immediately called Vukcevic to convince him to stay on the job. Ljajic said the PM refused to accept Vukcevic's resignation, and that after their conversation, Vukcevic withdrew it. Vukcevic and Kostunica will meet at 1600 local, and we are working to get a readout of that meeting from Vukcevic's staff. Ljajic confirmed that he does not intend to step down at the moment since Vukcevic has withdrawn his own resignation. He told poloffs in past weeks, though, that both he and Vukcevic intend to resign at the end of the year if there is not visible progress on the hunt for Mladic.  
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